

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1021
By Ford

A RESOLUTION To confirm the appointment of Sharon R. Thompson to the State Board of Education.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-301, provides for the creation of the State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-301, further provides that the Governor shall appoint members to fill vacancies on to the Board; and that beginning with appointments made on or after January 1, 2004, one appointed member of the Board shall be employed at the time of appointment as a K-12 public school teacher; and

WHEREAS, Governor Phil Bredesen recently appointed Sharon R. Thompson of Memphis, Tennessee, to fill a vacancy on the State Board of Education. Ms. Thompson will represent the 9th Congressional district as a Board member during a term that will expire on March 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson is a longtime resident of Shelby County, having graduated from Central High School in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson earned a bachelor's degree in science with a major in Criminal Justice from the University of Tennessee at Martin, a certification in Elementary Education from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, and a master's degree in Education, Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson became a teacher in the Memphis City School System in 1996, beginning by teaching at LaRose Elementary School for three years, and then teaching at Cummings Elementary School, where she currently is a fifth-grade teacher responsible for educating and interacting with students using both conventional and nonconventional methodology, and has other responsibilities including planning, instruction, classroom creativity, supervision and tutoring; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson has served in many leadership positions at Cummings Elementary, including acting as Lead Math Teacher, Grade Chairperson, Chairperson of the Travel Club, Chairperson of the Leadership Council, Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee, and member of the KEYS committee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson's extensive community involvement includes acting as president of the tutoring ministry at New Salem Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee, serving as a Mentor Teacher at the University of Memphis, acting as Chairperson for the St. Jude's Quest for a Million Pennies, volunteering to feed the homeless at the Mission, volunteering and mentoring pregnant teens at Porter Leath, and membership in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, National Education Association, Tennessee Education Association, and Memphis Education Association; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson's educational and professional experience would be a tremendous asset to the State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-301, provides that all members appointed to the State Board of Education by the Governor shall be subject to confirmation by the Senate and House of Representatives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the Senate and House of Representatives hereby confirm the appointment of Ms. Sharon R. Thompson, of Memphis, Tennessee, to the remainder of a nine (9) year term on the State Board of Education, such term to expire on March 31, 2008.